

Appl. No. 10/780,159
Amdt. Dated March 29, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are pending and subject to restriction and/or election. Applicants have canceled claims 7 and 25-27 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter claimed therein. Claims 1, 22 and 23 have been amended. New claims 40 and 41 have been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, in Paragraph [0056] of the specification as originally filed. The amendments to claim 22 are supported at Paragraphs [0053], [0055] and [0056]. The claim 23 amendments are supported at Paragraphs [0017], [0053], [0055] and [0056]. Support for new claim 40 can be found in Paragraph [0056], and support for new claim 41 can be found in Paragraphs [0057] through [0061].

The Action stated that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions, categorized as follows:

The Action required that the claims be restricted, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121, to one of the following invention groups:

Group I: Claims 1-4, and 23-39, drawn to a device, classified in class 428, subclass 212+.

Group II: Claims 5-21, drawn to a method of making a device, classified in class 264, subclass 239+.

Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I. Accordingly, Applicants acknowledge that the claim of Group II will be withdrawn from consideration under 37 C.F.R. §1.142. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the withdrawn claims in one or more divisional patent applications. Applicants note, however, that pursuant to MPEP §809.03 and §809.04, the withdrawn claims are subject to rejoinder if a claim linking the two groups of invention is found allowable.

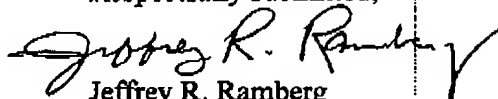
Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 41 is a member of Invention Group I, and that new claim 42 is a member of Invention Group II.

Applicants look forward to receiving early allowance of the claimed invention.

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Should the Examiner deem that any further action on the part of Applicants would be desirable, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,


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